(a) whether it is a fact that Qualcomm has recently told the Government that if the current spectrum policy remains unchanged, it will perpetuate over the long term a digital device in India by keeping consumers largely limited to voice service;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s. qualcomm has stated, among others, that the current approach of spectrum assignment focuses on voice services while limiting forward-looking operator's ability to facilitate broad social benefit *via* broadband wireless data and information services. According to Qualcomm, this policy limits the present value of 3G capabilities in the Indian market and prevents service providers from offering broadband data services in rural markets despite availability of spectrum in these areas. Qualcomm has further said that the practical result of this policy, if maintained, is that it will perpetuate over the long term a digital divide in India by keeping Indian consumers on limited, voice-only 2g services while china, Europe and indeed, the rest of the world, move aggressively to advanced networks and a rich mix of compelling voice and data services based on 3G CDMA (CDMA 2000 and WCDMA).

(c) The Spectrum Policy would take into account all relevant aspects, as well as available technologies in this regard.

Upgradation of Post Offices in Nagaland

1662. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the upgradation and modernization of post office services in the various districts in the State of Nagaland.

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(c) the details of funds sanctioned for this purpose during the current year; and

(d) by when modernization and upgradation works of the various post offices are likely to be started in the NER?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. there are two approved Plan projects in the Tenth Five Year Plan to computerize all large Post Offices and to modernize (by improving ergonomics) selected Post Offices across the country including those located in Nagaland.

(b) Post Offices provided with computers and modernized in Nagaland till date in the Tenth Five year Plan are given in the Statement (see below).

(c)An amount of Rs. 5,96,200/- has been sanctioned for this purpose during the year 2006-07.

(d) Modernization and computerization works started in the beginning of Tent Five Year Plan and till date 388 Post Offices have been provided with computers and 164 Post Offices modernized in the North Eastern Region (NER).

Statement

Post Offices provided with computers and modernized in the State of Nagaland

Sl. No.	Name of the districts	Names of the Post Offices provided with computers	Name of Post Offices Modernized (Improving ergonomics)
1.	Kohima	Kohima Head Post Office	Kohima Head Post
2.	Dimapur	Dimapur Assam Rifle Training Centre	Dimapur Assam Rifle Training Centre
3.	Mokokchung	Mokokchung	Mokokchung
4.	Mon	Mon	—
5.	Tuensang	Tuensang	Tuensang
6.	Wokha	Wokha	—
7.	Zunheboto	—	Zunheboto